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4/3/02
J. K. Hart

**CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)
REQUEST TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

Check Box, if applicable:
[] DUPLICATE

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| Address to: | Attorney Docket No. | 991059 |
| Commissioner for Patents BOX CPA Washington, D.C. 20231 | First Named Inventor | Akio NAKAJIMA |
| | Express Mail Label No. | |
| | Total Pages | |

This is a request for a [X] continuation or [] divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d) (continued prosecution application or CPA) of prior application number 09 / 400,833, filed on September 21, 1999, entitled WORKPIECE-TRANSFER DEVICE.

1. [] Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. [X] A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
3. This Application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53 (d)(4).
 - a. [] DELETE the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. [] The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. [] A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5. [] Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. [] PTO-1449
 - b. [] Copies of IDS Citations

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| Fee Transmittal | Number Filed | Number Extra | Rate | Basic Fee |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| The filing fee is calculated below | | | | \$740.00 |
| Total Claims | 4 - 20 | | x \$18.00 | |
| Independent Claims | 1 - 3 | | x \$84.00 | |
| Multiple Dependent Claims | | | \$280.00 | |
| | | | Basic Filing Fee | \$740.00 |
| Reduction by 1/2 for small entity | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | \$740.00 |

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PAGE 2 OF 2

6. Small entity status:

- a. A small entity statement is enclosed.
- b. A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.
- c. Is no longer claimed.

7. Please charge our Deposit Account No. **01-2340** in the total amount of _____. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16, or fees for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **01-2340**. A duplicate of this sheet is attached.

8. A check in the amount of **\$740.00** is enclosed. This check includes the basic filing fee.

9. The application is assigned to: **MURATA KIKAI KABUSHIKI KAISHA, Kyoto-shi, Kyoto 601 Japan**.

Please publish the assignee data with the application.

10. Claim for Convention Priority Certified copy of Priority Document(s)
Priority of Japan application no. 10-287954 filed on October 9, 1998 is claimed under 35 USC 119. The certified copy has been filed in prior application Serial No. 09/400,833. (if applicable).

11. Other _____

12. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

13. SUBMITTED BY

Typed or Printed Name **William G. Kratz, Jr.** Reg. No. **22,631**

Signature  Date: **March 19, 2002**



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#11/Suppl B
4/3/02
Plant

In re the Application of: **Akio NAKAJIMA**

Serial Number: **09/400,833**

Filed: **September 21, 1999**

Group Art Unit: **3724**

For: **WORKPIECE-TRANSFER DEVICE**

Examiner: **Flores-Sanchez, O.**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 19, 2002

Sir:

Prior to action on the present CPA application, and prior to assessment of claim fees, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1, as follows:

17
1. (Twice Amended) A workpiece-transfer device for loading a material workpiece in a workpiece-machining device and unloading a machined product workpiece from the workpiece-machining device, characterized in that the workpiece-transfer device includes a movement means with a rectangular coordinate system for moving a traveling body in a first horizontal direction along the direction in which the workpiece-machining device and a workpiece-storage device stand, at one side of the workpiece-machining device in a line as well as in a second horizontal direction orthogonal to the first horizontal direction, and in that said traveling body includes a gripping means for gripping a material or product workpiece, wherein said workpiece-storage device includes a

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